



**Minutes of the  
November 16, 2017  
PS 185 PTA Meeting**

**Meeting began at 6:37 PM**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the October 24, 2017 meeting were approved. Minutes are posted on the school's website and the PS 185 Parents page on Facebook.

**I. President's Report**

Welcome from Maia Elfont and Lara Bianchi (Co-Presidents)

Book of the Month (One copy per class)--Looking for parents to sponsor (co-sponsor) a month. Otherwise PTA will fund.

- December: Her Right Foot by Dave Eggers -- \$410.89 (30 copies at \$12.58 + tax--Amazon price)
- Future: Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson -- \$424.29 (30 copies at \$12.99 + tax--Amazon price)

Dance-a-thon held on Halloween raised over \$3,700. The goal was \$3,500. Thank you to Alison Pampinella who chaired the event.

Photography--issues with photographer. Trying to remedy. Retake day is December 6th. Just send back in all pictures, except the class picture. Usually a big fundraiser. Past years the Fall has raised close to \$5,000 and the Spring about \$1,200. Parents should reach out to Class Act to express their displeasure. Going to look into vendors for the 2018-2019 school year, as we signed a contract already for the 2017-2018 school year. Suggestions welcome.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates:

- November 17th: Book Fair continues. Online Book Fair open until December 1st.
- November 17th: Open School Week (5th Grade) 8:30 to 10:15AM
- November 20th: Candy Sale Ends
- November 21st: Refreshments with the Principal (Grades 4 & 5) @8:15AM
- November 23rd to November 24th: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

- November 27th to December 12th: Holiday Toy Drive (Boxes in lobby)--New, unwrapped toys. No stuffed animals.
- December 1st: DEADLINE to return completed and signed Middle School Applications (5th Grade ONLY)
- December 1st: Chip Friday
- December 5th: Kindergarten Open House for 2018-2019 School Year
- December 8th: Family Fun Night--Movie Night @6PM (Movie TBD)
- December 11th to January 19, 2018: Food Drive
- December 14th: PTA Meeting @6:30PM

Please be respectful of others on the FB page. The PTA meeting is a perfect forum for addressing your concerns.

Website is moving along and should be ready to be launched early in the New Year.

Buster the Comfort Dog received all of his certifications.

## **II. Treasurer's Report**

Harvest Festival (Thanks to Jade Grimaldi and Kathy Perilli) raised about \$6,500.

Danceathon raised \$3,732 (goal was \$3,500)

Opening Balance \$44,994

Closing Balance (as of 10/31/17): \$34,535.14

Down payments have been made for the Gala venue and Graduation.

Please shop Modells using coupon (Black Friday to January 1, 2018)

Also, please shop the Amazon link.

## **III. Principal's Report**

Started Rising Stars. Each month one student will be selected per class by his/her teacher.

Criteria include being kind and doing homework. October stars were awarded certificates and pins. Future Rising Stars will be honored at PTA meetings.

December 14th PTA meeting will include the PS 185 Chorus.

PTA doing a wonderful job with all of the amazing events including the Harvest Festival, Family Fun Night (Paint Night was a huge success). Thank you for all your hard work.

A new Student Council has been elected. Thank you to Ms. Maguire for coordinating.

We also had a successful Spelling Bee thanks to Ms. Megna.

Buster the Comfort Dog has graduated and has been certified to work with the students of PS 185. Permission slips have been sent home with all students. Buster is a beagle mix.

Teachers College continues to provide strategies to our teachers and students about test taking.

Hope that all parent teacher conferences went well.

NIA After school will begin on January 2nd. There will be another information session on November 29th at 5:15PM. Children will be chosen by lottery and must commit to Monday to Friday until 5:15.

PS 185 will still be having regular after school.

Grades 3/4/5 will be attending a performance of the Nutcracker at Fort Hamilton High School on December 21st.

Working on K/1/2 to attend a performance of the band at Fort Hamilton High School.

Every child should be given a jacket. Parents please do not assume children will not be going outside at recess. Also, you never know when there could be an emergency.

On the technology front, we are trying to get all Smartboards repaired. Also going to start putting computers in the classrooms.

#### **IV. Parent Coordinator Report**

Middle School applications due December 1st.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

##### Family Fun Night (Holly Nakleh)

Paint Night was a great success. Next Family Fun Night will be a movie on December 8th. There will be a poll on our FB page and via email about the movie. It will be a pajama night with winter type treats.

#### **VI. New Business**

None

#### **VII. Old Business**

None

## VIII. Open Forum

Some questions posed by parents are within the text of the above minutes.

Teachers College requires a massive amount of books per classroom. Such books would amount to roughly \$300,000. Brainstorming ideas on how to amass this huge collection for PS 185. If anyone has any ideas (or has any connections with vendors), please let us know.

If you have signed up to volunteer for any Committee, the Chair(s) will be in contact.

**Meeting ended 7:30 PM**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Support the PTA. Please return donation envelopes or send in an envelope with your child's name and class, and parent contact information to the attention of PTA Membership.
- Volunteer for various committees at:  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094ea5a628a2ff2-ptacommittees>
- Stay connected on Facebook at: PS 185 Parent Page (Please remember to answer the questions!)
- Help us raise money by using the following Amazon link:  
[https://www.amazon.com/?ie=UTF8&ref\\_=gno\\_logo&\\_encoding=UTF8&tag=p1p03-20&linkCode=ur2&camp=1789&creative=390957](https://www.amazon.com/?ie=UTF8&ref_=gno_logo&_encoding=UTF8&tag=p1p03-20&linkCode=ur2&camp=1789&creative=390957)
- Keep sending those Box Tops in!! Each one earns 10 cents for PS 185. Send in an envelope or ziploc, to the attention of the PTA: Box Tops.